

RIDGE 2004  
CALIFORNIA  
CHARDONNAY  
MONTE BELLO®

100% CHARDONNAY, MONTE BELLO ESTATE VINEYARD  
SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS 14.7% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME  
PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS  
17100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95015

**2004 Chardonnay, Monte Bello, bottled Mar 2006**

In 1962, when the number of fine California white wines could be counted on one hand, Ridge made its first Monte Bello Chardonnay. Not every vintage produces a Monte Bello—recently, only 1999, 2000, and 2003. In 2004, after a wet winter, the vines flowered and set significantly earlier than usual. This, coupled with a mild summer, brought ripe flavors by early September—also ahead of schedule. Each of the ten small parcels and sub-parcels was picked separately and whole-cluster pressed. The lots were racked to barrel, then spent three months in our cool underground cellars, fermenting to dryness on their own yeasts. A natural malolactic followed, finishing in late spring, when we selected three small, exceptional lots for this Monte Bello. Racked off the lees in August, the wines were returned to barrel and tank for six additional months of aging and settling, enabling us to bottle without filtration. This complex chardonnay is enjoyable now, but is still very young. It will develop more fully over the next five years.

EB/PD (1/06)

750 mL ®REGISTERED TRADEMARK Product of USA  
408.867.3233 [www.ridgevine.com](http://www.ridgevine.com)

**GOVERNMENT WARNING:** (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

CONTAINS SULFITES 7

